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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:
Toshihiko Okano et al

Atty. Dock. No. ION-0005

Serial No.: 09/893,617

Examiner: Steven Post

Filed: June 29, 2001

Art Group: 1733

For: Shape Design Process Of Engineering Products And Pneumatic Tire Designed Using
The Present Design Process

**ASSOCIATE POWER OF ATTORNEY AND
NOTIFICATION OF CHANGE OF NAME AND ADDRESS**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: November 6, 2002

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Sir:

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(1 of 1)

United States Patent Application**20020014294****Kind Code****A1****Okano, Toshihiko ; et al.****February 7, 2002**

Shape design process of engineering products and pneumatic tire designed using the present design process

Abstract

This invention provides a product shape designing process for designing an optimal product shape, particularly a pneumatic tire contour in a cross section, comprising the following steps. A shape generation step of setting plural basal shapes and linearly combining the basal shapes to generate plural sample product shapes, a performance evaluation step of obtaining evaluation values on a product performance of the sample product shapes generated in the shape generation step, and a product shape extraction step of extracting an optimal product shape whose evaluation value on the product performance is an optimal value based on the evaluation values on the product performance obtained in the performance evaluation step. This process realizes a smooth optimal tire contour that reduces rolling resistance coefficient while increasing lateral spring constant of the tire for good drivability.

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For: Shape Design Process Of Engineering
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Present Design Process

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